



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application of:
T. Minato et al.

For: INTEGRALLY MOLDED SURFACE
FASTENER, AND CONTINUOUS
PRODUCTION METHOD AND
CONTINUOUS PRODUCTION DEVICE
THEREFOR

Serial No.: 10/525,445

Filed: February 23, 2005

Examiner: James R. Brittain

Art Unit: 3677

Conf. No.: 3853

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on July 19, 2007.


Michael S. Leonard

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This Response is submitted in response to the non-final Office Action mailed April 19, 2007. Applicants request amendment, reconsideration and allowance of the patent application.

Applicants invite the Examiner to call Applicants' Representative to discuss any issues with this application.

Amendments to the Drawings begins on page 2 of this Response.

Amendments to the Specification begins on page 3 of this Response.

Listing of Claims begins on page 4 of this Response.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this Response.

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph at page 8, line 22, as follows.

In case of the molded surface fastener having the hook type engaging elements based on the aforementioned Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 9-322812 or Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. 11-56413, although the fall-down of the erected portion decreases and the engagement ratio is secured because of the peculiar shape of the engaging element, necessary separation strength is more difficult to obtain as the minuteness progresses and increase in the separation strength to the disposable diaper and the like has been strongly demanded as described above. As compared to the engaging element according to the Japanese Patent Application No. ~~2001-6440~~ 2001-64460, although a high engagement ratio with a mating pile piece is secured by preventing the fall-down of the engaging element against a pressing force, so that the durability required for this kind of the fixing device is satisfied and desired plasticity and shearing strength of the flat base member can be secured, it cannot be said that its engaging force and separation strength are sufficient.